nova scotia information service



press release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SYDNEY, N.9. -- General Instrument of Canada Limited has produced its 1,000,000th automobile radio tuner since it started operations here in the spring of 1967.

The company marked the occasion Friday with a ceremony in which a silver-plated tuner was presented to Dr. T. J. McKeough, minister of Trade and industry and minister of labour in the Nova Scotia government.

General Instrument produces here a range of electronic components including automobile radio tuners, coils for radio, television and high fidelity equipment, and transformers for television sets. Much of it is precision work, to close tolerances.

About 50 per cent of production is in tuners, and customers include major producers of automobile radios. Approximately 90 per cent of all production is exported to the United States.

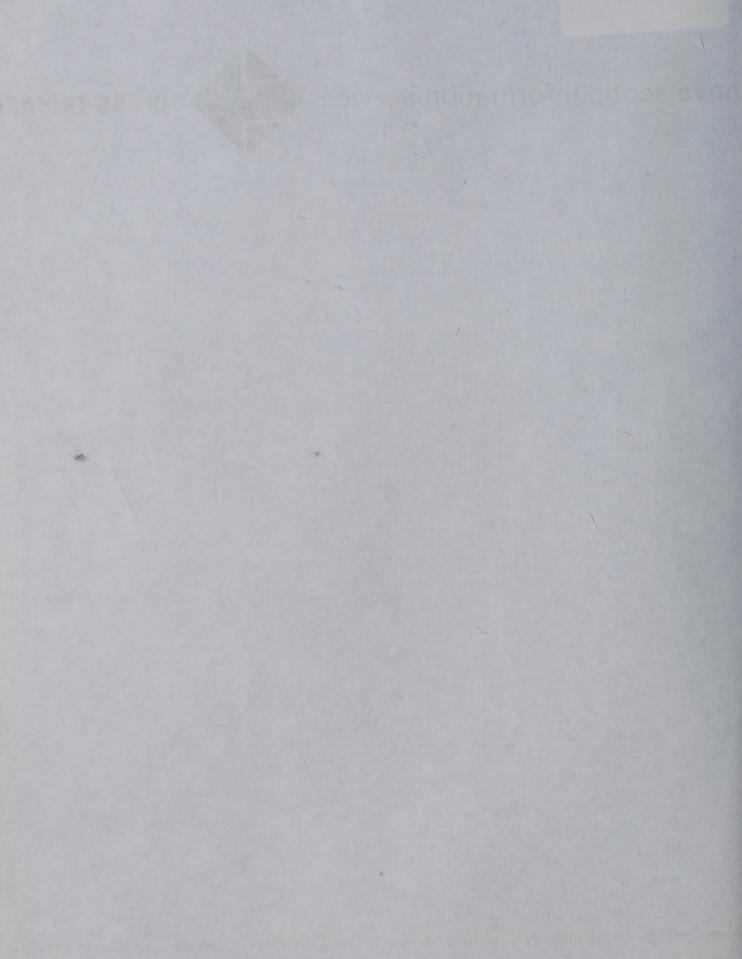
Production here started in March, 1967, in temporary quarters, and a new, 75,000-square-foot plant on an 18-acre site was offically opened last November 15. Industrial Estates Limited, the Nova Scotia Crown corporation formed in 1957 to encourage secondary industry, participated in the financing.

Employment has increased steadily to a current figure of about 850, up 200 in the last five months. Seventy-five to 80 per cent of the employees are women.

E. T. Rhein is vice-president and general manager in charge of

Sydney operations.

(more)



The presentation of the silver-plated tuner to Dr. McKeough was made by Mrs. Isabelle Cooper, business agent, Local 1818, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the union which represents the employees.

General Instrument of Canada also has plants in Ontario at Waterloo and Mount Forest. It is a subsidiary of General Instrument Corporation, New York.

The parent company, including subsidiaries, has more than 13,000 employees in about 20 plants and research centres in various parts of the world.

It was founded in 1923 and produces electronic components and equipment for three principal markets: entertainment; defence and space; and the industrial-commercial field.

The Canadian company is part of the parent company's Entertainment Products Division.